CHP NEWS

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CHP I-5 SPEEDING CRACKDOWN A SUCCESS

Results Of Statewide Effort To Slow Down Speeders

(SACRAMENTO) – More than two thousand motorists on Interstate 5 in California didn't head the warnings not to speed and got tickets instead. A highly publicized one-day speeding crackdown on I-5 from the Oregon border to the Mexican border was aimed at getting drivers to slow down. Last year, CHP officers issued an average of 400 speeding tickets per day on I-5. During the 24-hour period of the I-5 Speeding Strike Force, 2,010 citations were issued.

"That's five times the normal number of tickets," noted Arthur Anderson, CHP Assistant Commissioner of Field Operations. "Our goal here is not to write more tickets, but to save lives by getting people to slow down. When people ignore all the warnings and publicity about speeding, we have no other choice but to take aggressive enforcement action," Anderson stated.

A total of 461 patrol units and extra aircraft were assigned to the operation statewide. Many of the officers were on federal grant-funded overtime. The I-5 Speeding Strike Force will be launched again in the future without advance warning. Yesterday's operation was preceded by extensive news media coverage statewide.

"Obviously, we'd like people to see these news stories and change their behavior, but for those who don't we'll be back out there," warned Assistant Commissioner Anderson.

Similar speed enforcement operations will also be held on other major roadways in California during the coming months. Not all of them will be publicized in advance.

Speeding is one of the primary causes of fatal and injury crashes in California. CHP Commissioner Mike Brown has directed CHP officers to refocus efforts this year on three primary causes of roadway death: speeding, DUI and not wearing seat belts. More than four thousand people are killed on California roadways each year.

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